CHAPTER I – OBJECTIVES

ARTICLE 1
Objectives

The objective of this Agreement is to strengthen the global coffee sector and promote its economically, socially and environmentally sustainable development in a market-based environment for the betterment of all participants in the sector, by:

(1) Promoting international cooperation on coffee matters for the development of all coffee-growing areas and the reduction of the social, economic and technological gaps among countries, while taking into consideration the needs and priorities of Members;

(2) Facilitating engagement at the national, regional and global levels on coffee matters by Members and stakeholders in the coffee value chain;

(3) Encouraging Members to develop a sustainable coffee sector in economic, social and environmental terms;

(4) Providing a forum for consultations to seek understanding of the structural conditions in international markets and long-term trends in production and consumption that balance supply and demand, as well as to regulate adequately the spot, physical and financial markets for coffee in order to address volatility and excessive speculation that can distort prices, with negative effects on both producers and consumers;

(5) Facilitating the expansion and transparency of international trade in all types and forms of coffee, and promoting the elimination of trade barriers;

(6) Collecting, disseminating and publishing economic, technical and scientific information, statistics and studies, as well as the results of research and development in coffee matters;

(7) Promoting the development of consumption and markets for all types and forms of coffee, including in coffee-producing countries and emerging markets;

(8) Developing projects, supporting the management of financial resources for initiatives and, when possible and appropriate, managing the implementation of projects that benefit Members and the world coffee economy;

(9) Promoting coffee quality with a view to enhancing consumer satisfaction and benefits to producers;

(10) Encouraging the development and implementation of appropriate food safety procedures in the coffee sector in Member countries;

(11) Promoting training and information programmes designed to assist the transfer to Members of innovative practices and technology relevant to coffee;

(12) Encouraging and supporting Members to develop and implement strategies to increase the resilience of local communities and coffee farmers, in particular smallholders, so as to enable them to benefit from coffee production and trade, which can contribute to poverty eradication through a living income for families;

(13) Facilitating the availability of information, in particular, on financial tools and services that can assist coffee producers in Member countries to access credit and risk management instruments, allowing for greater financial inclusiveness and risk management, while also taking into account climate change;

(14) Addressing, where appropriate through research, the challenges facing the global coffee sector including but not limited to price volatility, high production costs, pests and diseases, climate change and traceability of coffee; and

(15) Promoting market-based solutions that allow producers to generate greater value addition.